BOMBAY GAZETTE

VOLUME XXV.] WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1814. [NUMBER 1270.

Proclamation.

Bombay to wit. BY Virtue of a Precept to me directed, I hereby Proclaim and give Notice, that a Session of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery will be holden before SIR ALEXANDER ANSTRUTHER, KNIGHT, Recorder and his Associates, Judges of the Honorable the Court of the Recorder of Bombay, at the Court House in Bombay, on Wednesday the Twelfth day of October next, at Eleven o'Clock, in the forenoon, for the Trial of all Treasons, Murders, Felonies, and other Crimes and Misdemeanors, had, done, or committed within the Town and Island of Bombay, and the Limits thereof, and the Places & Factories subordinate thereto, and dependent thereon; and also to enquire, hear and determine in like manner, all Treasons, Murders, Felonies, Forgeries, Perjuries, Crimes, Extortions, Misdemeanors, Trespasses, Wrongs, and oppressions had, done, and committed, by any of his Majesty's British subjects, in any of the Territories which now are subject to, or dependent upon the said Government of Bombay, or within any of the Dominions of the natives Princes of India in alliance with the said Government.

And also that, at the same time and place, will be holden a Session of Admiralty for the Trial of all Treasons, Murders, Piracies, Robberies, Trespasses, Misdemeanors, and other crimes and offences, done, perpetrated, or committed on the High-Seas.

And I hereby require and enjoin all persons bound to prosecute and give evidence at the said Sessions, or in any way concerned therein to attend at the time, and place above mentioned, and not to depart without leave of the Court.

—Dated this 5th day of September, 1814.

GEO. [illegible] MIGNAN,
SHERIFF.

MESSRS. SHOTTON, CALDER & Co. *beg leave to intimate to their Friends and the Public, that the Interest of* MR. JAMES CALDER, *in their Establishment, ceased on the First Instant, and that the Business will henceforward be conducted under the Firm of* SHOTTON, MALCOLM & Co.

Bombay, 5th October, 1814.

NAVAL OFFICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT

On Thursday the 13th Instant,

WILL BE SOLD

BY PUBLIC AUCTION,

At His Majesty's

NAVAL ARSENAL,

A QUANTITY OF

OLD Rope, Junk, Copper, Canvas, Iron, Boats, and sundry other Articles of Naval Stores.

CONDITIONS,

A Deposit to be made of 10 per Cent. and each lot cleared away in three days from the day of Sale, or the deposit to be forfeited and the Lot remain the Property of the Crown. All small Articles to be paid for on the spot and taken away immediately.

By Order of the Commissioner,

C. NORTHCOTE.
Naval Storekeeper.

Bombay, 28th September 1814.

Boyce Kempt and Co.

WILL SELL

BY PUBLIC AUCTION,

At their Rooms.

THIS DAY

THE Effects of two Gentlemen deceased, consisting chiefly of wearing apparel.

Also sundry Articles of Household Furniture, and plate the property of a Gentleman about to leave the Presidency.

At 12 o'clock will be sold a flea bitten grey Arab Saddle Horse 14 hands 1 Inch high, rising 5 years old, and a Buggy with an Arab Horse & Harness complete.

Bombay, 5th October 1814.

NEW CHARTER

FOR SALE,

AT THE

GAZETTE OFFICE,

A few remaining Copies

OF THE

Company's New Charter.

PRICE;—7 RUPEES EACH.

NAUTICAL CHRONICLE AND NAVAL REPORT.

BOMBAY.

SAILED.—October 1st, Grab Ship Futtay Alvadood, Captain James Hardie, to Bussorah,

ARRIVED.—Ditto 2d, Armed Boat Vigilant, Syrang Dossa Mahomed, from Surat.

BOMBAY.

BIRTHS.—On Thursday, at Palm Mount, the Lady of John Elphinston Esq. of a Daughter.

At Kaira, on the 11th of September, the Lady of Major Wilson of H. M. 17th Dragoons, of a Daughter.

DEATH.—At Kaira, on the 16th September, Jane third Daughter of John Turner Esq. of Hatherlly House Gloucestershire, and wife of Major Wilson of H. M. 17th Dragoons.—A young Lady, highly venerated and deeply regretted, by those who knew her best, as the tenderest of parents and most exemplary of wives.

DEATH.

At the Residency at Baroda, on the 26th of September, Lieutenant Edward Charles Bunyan, Adjutant 2d Batt. 6th Regt. N. I. at the Age of 24 years.—The early death of this amiable young man must long be deplored by those friends who were intimately acquainted with the chaste features of his character.

As an ornament to his profession, endowed with a cultivated mind and the most benevolent disposition, his loss is deeply and sincerely lamented by his brother officers.

☞ *TO A CORRESPONDENT.*

We should have been happy in meeting A Subscribers wishes, had not the Bulletin he sent us been of so old a date.

The Gazette.

BOMBAY, OCTOBER 5, 1814.

WE are still constrained to draw our materials from the stock we have, on hand, there having been no importation, from Europe or the Gulph, during the last week.

Just previous to publishing our last we were led to understand that the proceedings of the Court Martial on Admiral Stirling were unclosed so late as the 9th of May at night, we were therefore at a loss to know how the sentence could have transpired prior to the *Bengal's* sailing, but as we have since been informed that Capt. Hollis of the *Achille*, which ship left Spithead with the last fleet, was one of the Members of the Court, we entertain no further doubt on the subject.

We are induced by intelligence from Madras, to believe, that General Abercromby left that Settlement for Europe on the 1st Instant; and we have also heard that the Hesper Sloop of War had been dispatched by the Admiral to Calcutta for the purpose of bringing Lady Hood to Fort St. George, where Sir Samuel had already arrived.

To the Editor of the Bombay Gazette.

MR. EDITOR.

Had the letter in your last Wednesdays Paper borne a more serious signature, the people of Bombay would have manifested as much public spirit and zeal in affording relief to the Inhabitants of Kattywar, in the extermination of the Vermin, by which it is stated to be infested, as they evinced for their support during the late destructive famine; but from the equivocal character of Captain Ramrod, there is no knowing whether the writer speaks the truth, or whether he intends to thrust or ram the information down our throats, against the conviction of our reason; or, in other words, whether it be only one of those pleasantries with which we have recently been delighted by the genius of that Province.

As however the information of the Country being alarmingly infested by RATS, is more than probable, the aid solicited should be forthwith extended; and I will engage to furnish a sufficient number of OLD CATS from Bombay, for service to the Northward; Persian, Indian, English, Irish, or Scotch, though the latter is the most abundant, provided the supply does not fall within the focus of the commissariate.

Before I proceed to develope the feline resources of this Island, I beg to put Captain Ramrod in possession of an historical fact, which probably has not fallen within the range of his reading. A Learned Member of the Literary Society of Bombay has referred me to the second Volume of Grose's Antiquities Page 351, in which the Province of Kattywar is represented to have been visited with famine and pestilence about the period of the Mahomedan conquest of Guzerat, which were succeeded, as in the recent drought, by flights of Locusts, and, ultimately, swarms of Rats followed, to complete the miseries of that remarkable and unfortunate season. The RATS increased so rapidly and became so daring, that they actually knawed the toes and fingers of the Inhabitants whilst asleep (as in fact they are said to do at Dio Garcia to this day,) and threatened the gradual extirmination of every human being from that ill fated Province.

Fortunately at that period there were two Portugueze ships at Anchor off the Port of Nowanagur which had recently arrived from Europe; each of which had half a dozen She-Cats on board that had kittened during the passage; these with two Males and their progeny, formed the phalanx, and as they had been trained during the Voyage to the destruction of the Rats on board, they were in every respect ready and eager for the contest. The state of the Country having been made known to the Supra Cargos, they pledged themselves to clear the Province of the evil, provided they might be allowed to establish a factory at the Port. This proposition having been agreed to, and a compact concluded, the CATS, headed by a little Terrier Dog were landed, and after a desperate and bloody conflict which lasted for seven days, upwards of seven thousand five hundred Rats were destroyed, the rest took to their legs, and made an ignominious retreat from the Plains to the Hills, where they were in a few days starved or frightened to death by the nightly caterwaulings of the enemy. There is the fragment of a Poem in the Sanscrit language, which this learned Member of the Literary Society informed me he had seen, giving an account of this memorable conflict; which for ingenuity of design, simplicity of Machinery,—richness of imagery,—and hapiness of description, equals, in his opinion, the celebrated battle of the Frogs, and the Mice. I am in great hopes that the distinguished labours of that Society, will yet gratify the world, with a translation of so curious a work. But, Sir, what is not the least extraordinary result of these historical facts, is the circumstance, that this War of the Cats, and the Rats, gave birth to the name the Province bears to this day!—There was an English Doctor on board one of the Ships, who proposed, in commemoration of this event, to name the Country the CAT-WAR *Province*, of which KATTY-WAR is a very natural corruption, the true and correct Etymology being, according to *Grose*, CAT-WAR or the War of the Cats.

Having occupied so much of your paper I will postpone to another opportunity an account of the number of Cats which we can spare from Bombay, without any detriment to our society, old as well as young; male as well as female; with a faithful description of their characters, dispositions and capabilities. In the mean time allow me to bring to your notice a proclamation issued on the recommendation of His Majesty's Justices so recently as in January 1771, and which is still in force in Bombay, "offering a gratuity "for the destruction of Rats," which were becoming formidable even on this Island. As the number, however, has now been brought to what is esteemed to be, by a well known political œconomiser, the level of the demand, (for Rats according to the laws of nature, are useful in a relative proportion to other nuisances,) we can very well dispense with a few Bombay Cats for service in Kattywar. I am Sir,

Your's.

GRIMALKIN.

To the Editor of the Bombay Gazette.

SIR,

Having had my attention frequently, drawn, during my residence in the Deccan, to a particular species of rose, the colour of which, at sun rise is *white*, and, at mid-day, *red*, and not being prepared, at the time, to assign the philosophical cause of so singular a change, I confess I was not a little delighted at meeting, a short time since, with the following observations in one of the numbers of the Edinburgh Review. They form part of a critique on two of the works of Mr. Ellis, one of which treats, among other subjects, on the respiration of Plants, & fancying, tho' perhaps erroneously, that what pleased me might also please others I send them for insertion in your highly amusing paper, leaving it to your discretion to insert them or not as you see proper—The remarks are as follows.

"Lastly, Mr. Ellis in investigating the source of the oxygen emitted by the green parts of plants when exposed to light, has been led to one of the most beautiful theories, that have been suggested in modern physiology: That the various colours which adorn the vegetable kingdom, depend on the varied proportions of alkaline and acid matter mixed with the juices of the coloured parts of plants: That green and yellow, for example, are always produced by an excess of alkali, in the colourable juices of the leaf or flower—and all the shades of red by a predominance of acid; and that, in parts where neither acid nor alkali predominate, the colour is white: Just as, in an experiment familiar to every one, we convert an infusion of green leaves into red, by pouring into it a little vinegar—or an infusion of red flowers into green, by a few drops of potass or ammonia—or, destroying the colours of both infusions entirely, by adding the alkali and acid in such proportions, as that they shall exactly neutralize each other. But it is well known, that the presence of light is essentially necessary to the production of colour, in various plants. Thus, if a plant, which is naturally of a green colour, be made to grow in total darkness, the leaves and other parts, as they unfold themselves, will appear perfectly white, and remain so. But if we now bring this *etiolated* plant as it is called, into the light, the blanched foliage, and the young leaves, as they expand from the bud, will soon acquire a yellowish tint, which will gradually deepen into a green; and this colour, after being completely formed, may again be made to disappear, by returning the plant into a dark place. The etiolation, or blanching of the roots of celery, and of the inner parts of cabbages and lettuces, are familiar examples of the same kind. In like manner, if red rose trees are carefully secluded from the light, they will produce flowers almost white; or if a portion of a ripening peach or cherry be covered with a piece of tinfoil, the uncovered parts of the surface will become perfectly red, while the covered portion will exhibit only a pale, or straw-colour.

Now, in all these instances, our author has suggested, that the light contributes to the development of the colour, merely by modifying the proportions of alkali or acid matter in the fluids of the part. For it is found, that the blanched leaves of an etiolated plant abound in carbonic acid, and that they not only contain less alkali than green leaves, but that this alkali exists in a more neutralized state: and hence, according to Mr. Ellis, their white colour. But as soon as the plant is brought into the sun, the chemical action of the solar beam begins, as it would seem, to decompose the carbonic acid existing in the white parts; the alkali by degrees comes to predominate; and the colour of the leaves is observed to pass gradually into a full green. Thus, too, a reason may be assigned, why the green parts alone of plants placed in the light have been said to afford oxygen: for in fact, the emission of oxygen, and the production of the green colour, appear both to depend on the same cause—the decomposition of carbonic acid; so

that we cannot so properly affirm that the green parts afford oxygen, as that they become green when that gas is expelled. Again, when, in the fall of the year, vegetation begins to decline, alkaline matter seems less abundantly supplied; while spontaneous decomposition appears actually to increase the quantity of acid in the leaves: and, according to the various proportions of acid which are developed in the leaves of different plants, the foliage exhibits those various shades of brown, or those bright tints of yellow and red, which so beautifully diversify an autumnal scene. On the other hand, it would seem, that, when the sunbeams either entirely produce, or only heighten the red colours of flowers or fruits, they produce these effects by some chemical action, which favours the formation of acid in the juices of the coloured part."

Your's,
AN OBSERVER OF NATURE.
Bombay, 2d October, 1814.

CALCUTTA.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1814.

The Right Honourable the Governor General, family, and suit, safely reached Benares on the 25th ultimo. His Lordship and Lady Loudoun alighted at the house of Mr. Salmon, the Collector of the district. We are concerned to mention that his Lordship was considerably indisposed for several days. Having been much exposed in reviewing the troops &c. His Excellency was taken ill on the evening of the 27th, and obliged to retire from company. It was His Lordship's intention to have held a Durbar on Monday the 29th, which was necessarily postponed in consequence of His Lordship's indisposition. At the date of the latest account, the Governor General's health was perfectly restored, and likewise that of the Countess of Loudoun, who had been ailing. Letters of the 31st are silent on the subject of his Lordship's departure from Benares.

Since the above was written, accounts from Benares of the 1st instant, have reached town, which confirm the previous report of the re-establishment of His Excellency the Governor General's health; and announce his departure for the 6th instant.

We regret to mention that Sir E. H. East, on Saturday evening last, met with two accidents, either of which might have led to very serious consequences. Whilst riding along the course in the dusk of the evening, Sir Edward received a kick on the leg from the horse of some person passing at speed. Being disabled from sitting any longer on horseback, he alighted and took a seat in a Gentleman's Buggy, with the intention of being immediately driven homewards. He had not however proceeded a hundred yards, before the buggy wheel was caught by that of a carriage, the buggy upset, and Sir Edward with his fellow passenger thrown to the ground, with considerable violence. Luckily, an impending shower had shewn the necessity of putting up the hood, which checked their fall, and probably warded off very considerable injury. Sir Edward received some bruises, which have fortunately proved of no great extent—He is now almost well.
(Calcutta Gazette).

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH 1814.

3PCT. 8 12.	Six per Cent. Loan Obligation, *(disc.)*	SELL 9 4

MADRAS.

SEPTEMBER 20, 1814.

On Sunday afternoon, arrived the Honourable Company's Ships *Lord Keith*, Captain Peter Campbell, and *Alexander*, Captain Newall, from England the 9th of April, and Madeira the 22d May,—and the *Asia*, Captain Treemenhere, from Vizagapatam, left 15th September.

PASSENGERS PER LORD KEITH.

For Madras:—Captain Elliot,—Lieutenant S. Haggard,—Mr. A. Campbell, Assistant Surgeon,—and Mr. M. Sargeant, Artillery.

For Bengal:—Mr. Hill, Free Mariner, and Mr. B. Brown, Cadet.

PASSENGERS PER ALEXANDER.

For Madras:—Miss Goldingham, Messrs, Stull and Dawker, Cadets, and 5 Native Servants.

For Bengal:—Capt. W. C. Faithfull, Captain Wm. Baker, Mr. Jno. Laniaftvo, Asst. Surgeon, Mr. Charles Hickman, do. Mr. M. Hughes, Cadet, Mr. A. Faithfull do.—Mr. Paymaster Mathews,—Mr. Ensign Williams, and Mr. John Benson, Masters Benson, and Owen.

Mrs. Maria Faithfull, Miss. Faithfull, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Laniaftvo, Miss Palinoo, Miss Humpton, and Miss Clark.

PASSENGERS PER ASIA.

For Madras:—Mrs. Gibson, and Child, Miss Underwood, & Mrs. Keating, with their Native Servants.

During the whole time the *Asia* was at Vizagapatam, she experienced very blowing weather, and lost successively all her anchors, which she had attempted to fish up but without success.
(Courier).

English Extracts.

WILL OF THE LATE MR. WRIGHT.

The will of the late Wm. Wright, Esq. which we noticed for the singular disposition it made of his property, principally in favour of Lady Wilson, is, we understand, in a course for litigation in Doctor's Commons, at the instance of Sir Berkely Wm. Guise, Bart, M. P. for Gloucestershire, who claims as a cousin-german once removed, and one of the next relatives of the testator. The following, amongst others, is a codicil in Mr. Wright's own hand writing, and is expected to be much relied on, as tending, by the character of its composition, to an inference of his insanity, which is the ground of opposition to the will. Lady Wilson and the Speaker of the House of Commons, as the executors, are the other parties to the proceeding—

"Having been subject, for some years, to an occasional swelling and acute pains, I desire that my body may be opened, and the state of my bladder inspected and examined; it may perhaps be seen and judged, upon that view, whether my habit and bodily infirmities enabled me to struggle and fight with needy hackney writers and swindlers, with ferocious French spies, and with desperate Irish blacklegs and ruffians, retained in the vile and wretched pay of the French Republic."

EXEMPLARY PUNISHMENT OF BUONHPARTE. AND THE GREAT MORAL AND POLITICAL LESSON IT AFFORDS—TOGETHER WITH A REVIEW OF THE FRENCH CONSTITUTION.

It is so seldom that any History, sacred or profane, presents the splendid example of the great punishment of Tyrants, that the age in which it occurs has a just claim to be considered as an era; and the attention of mankind is most particularly called to it, as affording at once a satisfaction to that principle of justice which is innate in every breast, and, at the same time, a most impressive proof and manifestation of the superintendence of Providence over human affairs. Example, of this kind, therefore, to a generous people and to minds of due feelings, are at once consolatory and awful; individuals and nations in private difficulties and in national calamities, by reminding them that the world, and all that occurs in it, are under the government of One who never sleeps; who putteth up one, and setteth another down; and who having willed, particularly since the revelation of Christianity, that the world should exist in a certain degree of order and happiness, always preserves it in that degree, or recalls it back to it, by his exemplary visitation on atrocious wickedness. Now, in Kings and Governors, this wickedness is but of two kinds;—in the first place tyranny, and in the second ambition; by the first of which they oppress their own people and by the latter, are the scourges and desolators of the world.

It has been suggested, however, by some of the daily writers, and very erroneously, that this example still wants something of its completeness by the subject of it being suffered to live; that it was the duty of the Allied Sovereigns to consign Buonaparté to the punishment which he merits, and that his escape with life, & particularly with a provision for his comfort and independence, is so much detracted from the just rule and measure of his punishment, and therein so much wanting to the perfectness of the example.

It is a sufficient answer to this objection, to consider the nature of punishment. Now punishment, as exercised by one human being over another, has but two ends,—namely, the removal of the evil or the cause of evil, and the satisfaction to the injured laws or rights of society by the example which goes forth in the punishment of criminals—Revenge, or the infliction of pain for pain without looking further, has no place in human rights—This kind of vengeance belongs only to the Governor of all of us. Human tribunals have no further right in punishment but that of the removal of the evil, the correction of the offender, and the example to others. Now are not all these interests most sufficiently satisfied in the present instance? The evil is removed,—and what example is more tremendous than that of one who has fallen from such a height, and has sunk into such an abyss. Would not death be a relief from such sufferings? He now reminds us only of Dionysius of Syracuse, or Bajazet,—the one of whom, after having been the tyrant of his time, finished his days as a schoolmaster; and the other, after having been conqueror, was carried about by Tamerlane in an iron cage, and exhibited from town to town, and from village to village, with the inscription—"Here you may behold a Tyrant."

Nor do we see, indeed, in what mode Buonaparté, unparalleled as have been his crimes, could have been thus capitally punished without wounding much greater interests than such punishment could satisfy—If condemned to death, it must either have been by the Allies, or by the French people. But it would have been contrary to all acknowledged rights of war, and of the most dangerous example in future times, if Sovereigns (for at that time he was a Sovereign) had assumed a right to sit in judgment over each other, and after having conquered each other in a regular war, to become judges in a formal trial—As soon as the army were out of his hands, the rights of war ceased—But if he was to be tried by the French people, who were to have been his judges? The only representatives of the people are the Senate and the Legislative Body, & whatever we may now think of them, or be disposed to praise their present conduct, it cannot be concealed or denied that they were themselves the instruments of his ambition, the partakers of many of his crimes, and nearly in every sense as guilty as himself.

Let them here, however, stand extenuated as their present conduct is the salvation of their country.

Our own opinion is, that it is the most undoubted and the best praise of this Revolution that it has been so tranquilly effected, and that, excepting the bloodshed in battle between the contending armies, not a life has been lost in the most complete Revolution on modern record. A kingdom has been conveyed away from one Dynasty to another, with as much ease and as little formality, as a private estate; and the one Sovereign departs and the other arrives, as if in legal succession or civil proprietorship. We do not remember in all history, indeed, such an example as the City of Paris now presents—an hostile & invading army going to & fro through the gates and streets, whilst all the Councils of the Country, the Senate, the Legislative, and the Administrative Bodies execute their functions as tranquilly as in the most profound Peace. The conduct of the Citizens of Paris, indeed, is as extraordinary, and in this point of view is as commendable, as that of the Allied Sovereigns; for never was performed so important a Drama with so little of malignity.

With respect to the New Constitution of France, it resembles, in a great degree, our own happy system, which all the French writers, and, still more particularly, all her Statesmen who have resided in England, have always held up as the perfection of political wisdom—But as the parties now in France, the Senate & Legislative Body, have their own particular interest to provide for, and could only accomplish their own security by reserving to themselves a great degree of controuling power, it will be seen that the Aristocracy, or Senate, is much more powerful than the House of Lords, amongst us, with whose functions it corresponds—The limits to its number tend to give a perpetual majority to the party now composing it—The present Senate in number is 130; and is not to exceed 200; so that the King can only add a minority of 70; and as the Princes of the Blood, and the great Peers of France, must necessarily have a seat, he is almost entirely precluded from new creations.

'There is a double disadvantage, therefore, in this limitation—In the first place, the Monarch has not that authority and influence which he should have in the Senate; and secondly, the Legislative Body, and the people themselves, are precluded from one of the great objects of public ambition, and, therein, of one of the greatest incitements to public service,

It has a third disadvantage perhaps equally great—A limited Aristocracy is necessarily a body by itself; it has no sympathy with the people; it has therefore that intolerable pride which renders it a subject of more invidiousness than the power of the Monarch himself—It becomes either too powerful for the Sovereign, in which case it checks him in the exercise of his salutary authority; or like the Doge, and Senate, in the ancient Constitution of Venice, it assimilates, and becomes one with him, and both concurring together render the people nothing.

The Legislative Body has a nearer correspondence with our English House of Commons, except in two points—The first and most important difference is, that the Members are to be chosen by Electoral Colleges; the second is, that this Body, as well as the Senate, is to assemble of right each year on the 1st of October—This is evidently a diminution of the Royal authority—But the prerogative will be herein indemnified by the influence which it will necessarily establish in the Electoral Colleges.

The Pensions to the Senate and Legislative Body are perhaps necessary in the present state and representation of France, where the country Gentlemen are not sufficiently numerous, and sufficiently rich, to bear the expence of a long residence in the capital; and where the institution itself, from its novelty, wants that honourable splendour, which renders it an object of ambition, as amongst ourselves in England—The Trial by Jury, and the independence of the Judges are provided for—What may be called the locality of actions, that is to say, that no one can be removed from his natural Judges, is an excellent security against any unfair dealing by a Minister.

The nomination of these persons, upon the vacancy of a Judicial office, out of which the Monarch is to elect one, is an unwise infringement of what ought to be the Royal Prerogative—It renders the Judges independent of the King; but does it not equally render them subservient to the people?—A popular, or factious Judge, is a more real danger than a courtly one.

The executive, with the exception of the diminutions above mentioned, which are very serious ones, and some of which are not well calculated to preserve the public peace, has the usual prerogatives of the other European Sovereigns.

We must not, however, upon the whole, blindly compliment this Constitution of France. It is rather aristocratic than popular, and more popular than monarchical. The Crown wants a good deal of that splendour which is necessary to render it awful in the sight of the people; and there are too many points in which the Senate and Legislative body are protruded forth as independent of it.

In our own Constitution, the Royal authority is held forth to the people as supreme, and the King is not so much prevented from doing any thing, as he is afterwards made responsible in the persons of his Ministers for doing wrong. But in the French Constitution, this spirit of democratic independence, and a licentious liberty, are cherished and called forth in the people, by having repeated instances before their eyes of a power superior to the King. This is a main defect, as it lessens the salutary influence of the Royal authority upon the vulgar, and gains nothing but what might equally have been gained, by the preservation of the full prerogative, controuled in its exercise by the responsibility of Ministers.

We trust, as the spirit of the times becomes more tranquil, that for the happiness of France, their Constitution will be improved into a nearer resemblance with that of Great Britain, which, by a due mixture of popular Liberty and Royal Authority, has held an equal and straight forward course, for so many centuries, and has brought us safe out of so long and so many calamities. *(Bell's Mess.—April 18th.)*

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Having lately seen, in your Paper, a report that six British Officers had been executed by the Americans; a circumstance that cannot fail to excite the most anxious feelings in the relations and friends of the twenty-six Officers, who are known to have been put into close confinement by them, to answer with their lives the safety of thirteen traitors sent home for trial by Sir George Prevost, I thing it may be some satisfaction to them to know, that this alarming report may have had its foundation on some misrepresentation of the contents of an interesting letter, (shewn to some friends) written to his father in England by one of those Officers. Inclosed I send you a copy of it for early insertion, if you think proper, in your admirable paper, of which I am a CONSTANT READER.

"Halifax, Feb. 4, 1814.

"My dear Father,—I avail myself of the earliest opportunity of relieving you and my good Mother from the dreadful state of suspense you must be in for my safety. I effected a most providential escape from confinement and arrived here two days ago: I will give you all the particulars of my capture and escape.

"I was taken on the 5th of October last, in a small sloop, mounting two guns, which I commanded. You will of course think it extraordinary that I, a military officer, should have such a command, but Sir George Prevost being very much in want of officers, applied to Colonel Morrison, our commanding officer, for some one to command this sloop, who immediately offered it to me; our Regiment was very much dispersed, not having more than 20 men at head-quarters. I had under my command some small vessels down the Lake, with several officers and some troops. Very soon after we sailed, we had the misfortune of falling in with Commodore Chauncey's squadron, consisting of 14 sail, and were taken. We were first carried to Sacket's Harbour, and from thence marched to Cheshire, above 200 miles inland—we remained there three weeks, when we received information that an exchange of prisoners had been effected, and were marched to Worcester, about 40 miles from Boston—here we remained nearly a month, in expectation of a Cartel from Halifax, when the system of retaliation took place, and instead of being exchanged, which we daly expected we were ordered into close confinement in Worcester gaol, as Hostages for the 23 traitors Sir George has sent to England to be tried. We were ten in number, and placed in a most miserable dirty close room, with two dirty straw paliasses, & only four or five dirty rugs to cover us—here we ate, drank, & slept; and being obliged to convert this one room to every purpose, without being allowed even half an hour in a day for fresh air, & the privy in one corner, the room soon became very loathsome. In this horrid state we remained six weeks, and were about to be removed 300 miles into the country, for the purpose of carrying the horrid execution into effect with more ease, the people of this State having openly declared that they would not suffer it to take place here. On the evening before we were to have been removed, we succeeded in breaking out of the goal; we were all but one in regimentals, that one myself. I with three other Officers were fortunate enough, after much suffering and meeting with great difficulties, to succeed in getting to Boston, where we found friends to assist us, and secret us till we finally succeeded in getting off. They supplied us with coloured clothes, and found a man who engaged to take us to Halifax for 750 dollars; every thing was arranged for our leaving Boston, but by some ill luck the Marshal found out that we were to leave Boston on a certain night, and to go in the sloop we had hired: he placed himself, with 15 men, on the road we were to go, and stopped and searched every carriage. Our friends had provided for us a carriage exactly resembling the mail, and the Marshal thinking it was the mail suffered it to pass: in a quarter of an hour after he was undeceived by the mail coming up, and he again pursued towards the sloop, out of which he had previously taken all the sails, and all the stores of every kind. What our sensations were on finding her in such a state are not to be discribed: the sails and stores had been put into a house at no great distance on the beach, we broke it open, and carried off the gib and mainsail and a small quantity of provisions, and threw them into the boat and got the gib fastened at top and bottom and pushed off the vessel; the men we had hired, all except one, forsook us when they found we were so closely pursued, as they would certainly have hanged them if they had been taken. The Marshal and his men were on the beach, in a quarter of an hour after we were afloat, with only one man, a little provisions, a quarter cask of gin, very bad sails and those not bent; nothing but the certainly of being hanged if we were caught, could have induced us to run such a risk. They caught the remainder. The wind blew pretty fresh and at day-break we were out of sight of land. At three o'clock we had fortunately a calm, when we went to work, got the sails properly bent and set to rights, which we had hardly finished, when a breeze got up that carried us at the rate of nine miles an hour and we knew pretty well what course to steer; the difficulty now was to relieve the man at the helm; two of our friends were so sick they could do nothing, and Carter and myself were obliged to relieve each other every half hour; so intense was the cold, which we felt the more from having been so long confined; the weather was fine, or we must have been frozen to death; our passage was most providential, for we arrived here on the fourth day. It is impossible for me to describe to you our sufferings in the

Digitized with financial assistance from the
Government of Maharashtra
on 28 June, 2017

woods and on board, and it is impossible for you who are unacquainted with this country, to form any idea of the inclemency of the weather at this season; thank God I escaped the rascals, and am safe here in good health and spirits, neither of which I am happy to say ever forsook me. We are going overland to join our regiments in Canada." *(Courier April 29th)*

SIR PHILIP FRANCIS.

From the pen of a Gentleman of such literary talents and political experience as Sir Philip Francis much information and able reasoning are naturally expected. His letter to Earl Grey on the subject of Norway, will therefore be looked into with hopes of finding in it the substance of the case the Opposition intend laying before Parliament. Disappointment will follow perusal. The real, the great question is avoided. Sir Philip declines treating of it "for want of time," though his pamphlet is expressly written to explain and state it. He does not think it necessary to dispute the King of Denmark's "right "to renounce the protection of Norway, to "divest himself of all title to the allegiance of "that people. He asks, "can any man state a "case in which the King of England could have "a right to alienate Ireland and transfer it to "France? Could such a transfer give a valid "title to France, or make it treason in the Irish "to defend their independence?" "I have not time," says Sir Philip, to argue such a question now, nor in truth does it deserve or admit of an argument."

Thus, the whole merits of the case he dismisses for want of time and importance!—though his pamphlet is published expressly to expose "the flagitious project" of transferring Norway. But if he shuns the main question as unworthy of notice, he indulges freely in what seems better suited to the sweetness of his temper. He abuses roundly old friends and foes, as well as the present friends of his country, sparing only his worst enemies. Pitt and Sheridan are execrated. "Their true characters and merits," says he, "are already on record, and "shall be kept in preservation like reptiles in "spirits for the wonder of posterity. They "shall not be suffered to sneak out of life and "skulk into obscurity." As Sheridan said one one day—'It is not possible: you might as well expect a serpent to take the direction of "an arrow.' "That speech would have made "him immortal, if, as he ought to have done, he "had died at the end of it." Whether Sir Philip wrote this under the influence of some such "pure wine" as he informs us he drank with Lord Grey sixteen years ago, or that the passage he expects should be excused on account of "superannuation," of which he also boasts, is a question which must be determined by his intimates.

But,—the Crown Prince, and the Prince Regent;—these are the chief objects of his scurrility. The former he accuses of cowardice, of pillage, of robbery; founding his charges on the writings of Sir Robert Wilson, a wretched author, and on hear say stories about what Blucher and Sir Charles Stewart said. It is a little singular that Buonaparte's journalists, while endeavouring to blacken the Crown Prince eight months ago while raking up all his former friends could recollect, while hatching every thing that could be believed, brought no such accusations against his Royal Highness. The Prince Regent he charges with disgracing himself, with ruining the character of his King and country, by holding intercourse with such a man as Bernadotte, but not one word of blame is cast on those who communicated with and complimented the bloody miscreant Buonaparté. While Sir Philip speaks (for his own purpose, and to contrast with the Regent,) of the King as a man of the most exalted sense of honour, he insinuates that his Majesty's friends only were so because they had royal favours heaped upon them. And he concludes, by snapping his fingers at the Prince, saying he has nothing more to hope for in this world. "When favour is not expected, fortune has no power," thus confessing that selfish views have hitherto influenced his conduct, but that now being old, and likely to get no more from the State, he cares not a pinch of snuff for any Regent or King. This is said by him who has made a fortune in the public service, by one who is decorated with stars and ribbons, and titles granted to him by the very Royal Family, at which (now he expects no more) he snaps his fingers!

But the most remarkable feature of Sir Philip Francis's pamphlet, and a very remarkable one it is—one which should be marked and remarked—is this:—throughout the whole there is not one word of exultation, of joy, of satisfaction, at the very glorious termination of the war, and the happy deliverance of Europe. This is a feature in the pamphlet highly deserving of remark and meditation. The pamphlet goes back to the origin of the war and Mr. Fox's opinions, treats of its progress, and takes a very wide range on other subjects, but contains not one expression of pleasure at the situation in which Europe now finds herself. On the contrary, it is filled with gloom and despondency. It begins by speaking of "the miserable transactions of the world," and proceeds as if the people were bereaved of all that is valuable. Is this then the effect which the redemption of mankind from the yoke of a bloody conqueror has produced on the members of the English Opposition? Do they despond and mourn, while society at large rejoice in the summer of happiness now bursting upon them? Are the views of the English Opposition so black and hellish, that the peace and prosperity of the world, the welfare of their own country in particular, are incompatible with them? If this question could be answered in the affirmative, then it would be explained to Lord Carlisle why the Opposition have not acknowledged the great ability with which the English Ministry have conducted our affairs, and brought us to the proud condition in which we now stand. A few days ago, in the House of Lords, his Lordship, a Member of Opposition, publicly expressed surprise at the silence of the leaders of Opposition on the great merits of the Government. Let him read Sir Philip's pamphlet. Upon that pamphlet we shall conclude with another extract from it:—"The pacific check of opinion against power is a jurisdiction inherent in the community, not to be wantonly or factiously applied."

(Courier May 9th.)

EXTRACTS TAKEN FROM A PAMPHLET ENTITLED "HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF POLITICS AND PUBLIC MEN FOR THE YEAR 1813."

(Continued from our last.)

CAMPAIGN IN THE NORTH, AND IN GERMANY

Although the events of the Peninsular war, which we have just surveyed, were, beyond all doubt, of no ordinary importance, it yet happened in this, as in the preceding campaign, that they were almost eclipsed by the unprecedented magnitude and splendour of those which took place at the opposite extremity of Europe. That grand revolution in the whole system of her political existence, of which the foundation only was then laid, now reached its consummation; and results ensued, more brilliant and auspicious, than the most sanguine imagination could ever have anticipated.

The retreat of the French army from the Beresina to the Niemen, and from the Niemen to the Vistula, was one continued scene of dismay, route and confusion. The Cossacs hovered continually in crowds on their rear, and were able, not indeed absolutely to stop their retreat, but to render it uniformly disastrous, and to cut off every thing, which for a moment seperated itself from the main body. Meantime the wings of the Russian army followed close on the flanks, and by continually threatening to interpose between them and France, rendered it impossible to pause for a moment at any single point. Buonaparté had directed, that a stand, if possible, should be made for a few days at Wilna, the grand depot of the army, and filled with supplies of every kind. Could this have been effected, the troops would have breathed from their fatigues, and their order and efficiency would have been in some measure re-established. But scarcely had they, by a succession of prodigious marches, through tracts nearly impassable, succeeded in reaching that important place, when they found themselves already almost surrounded by the Russian columns; and it was necessary to hurry on with the utmost celerity. The victorious Russians took possession of Wilna, in which they found 20,000 prisoners, a great proportion of whom were wounded, seven generals, with vast quantities of provisions, arms and equipments of every description. Without pausing however they continued their pursuit. One column under Wittgenstein, went down the Niemen to cross at Tilsit; while another under Platoff pursued along the direct rout through Kowno. The French had entrenched themselves strongly at this place; and they hoped, by defending the passage of the Niemen, to have obtained a short respite. Platoff, however, hesitated not a moment. He threw himself upon the frozen Niemen, and the whole body of his Cossacs were soon on the opposite bank. No choice was left to the enemy, but to fly or surrender. They hastily crossed the river in two columns; but were not able to avoid the attack of the Cossacs who cut off considerable numbers. The pursuit was then continued, as before, with the daily captnre of prisoners, cannon, baggage, and ammunition. The same scene continued uninterrupted till the two armies arrived on the Vistula.

According to official accounts published by the Russian government, the number of prisoners taken, from the battle of Borodino to the present period, amounted to 170,000 men, of whom 1298 were officers and 41 generals. To this was added 1131 pieces of cannon. Europe stood aghast at this estimate. Never, in her bloodiest wars, had she witnessed or heard of such a destruction. The account could not have obtained belief, had not that prodigious host been seen passing through into the Russian territory, and had not the wrecks of it been seen returning. This spectacle, with the absolute want of all power of resistance which subsequent events exhibited, convinced the world, that what might otherwise have seemed a mere political artifice, was real and official truth.

During the course of these movements, an event of the most important nature took place. The whole Prussian force, joined to about 6000 French under Macdonald, had been employed in the blockade of Riga. The Russian army, in advancing to the Niemen, came upon the rear of this corps. Macdonald, by retreating with the utmost expedition, succeeded in extricating himself. But D'York, the Prussian commander, felt no disposition to make such extraordinary efforts. He tranquilly suffered his retreat to be cut off, and entered into a convention with the Russian generals, by which his troops were to remain in a state of neutrality. This was but the prelude to formally uniting himself with them, and taking an active part against France. The intelligence of this change caused a prodigious sensation in the French cabinet, and over the whole of the Continent. It was the first instance, in which his standard had been so deserted; an earnest of that mighty defection, which was soon to range against France all the states now in subjection to her. In vain was this act branded with the name of treason; in vain was the king compelled to denounce his loyal subject as a traitor and an outlaw. Europe admired and applauded; and every soldier who in the ranks of the tyrant, fought against his own and his country's liberty, burned to imitate the glorious example.

The Austrian army, from the same cause lost also its communication with the French main body; a circumstance which, as its zeal also had begun to cool, did not cause any serious uneasiness. It fell back without resistance upon Austrian Poland, and there concluded a convention of neutrality, which set at liberty the Russian corps under Sacken then operating against it.

In the beginning of January the vanguard of General Wittgenstein crossed the Niemen and pressed down upon Konigsberg. At Lobiau it found the remains of Macdonald's corps, reduced now to 7000 men, and a sharp action ensued. The French were defeated, and driven upon Konigsberg, through which city they passed without halting. The Russians entered behind, and found eight thousand men, over come with sickness and fatigue were left in the place, as well as a considerable quantity of cannon and provisions. Soon after Tchichagoff advancing by a different route, arrived on the Vistula, forced the passage of the river, and took possession of Elbing, Marienberg, and Marienwerder.

The Russian army, arrived on the Vistula, took a short interval of repose. The utmost deliberation was required in determining the course which it was now to follow. The French possessed along that river a range of fortresses which commanded its course, and seemed to oppose a barrier against the farther progress of a northern enemy. Was the Russian army to employ itself in besieging these fortresses, and thus secure this line of defence against any future invasion? This seemed the most prudent part, and most according to the established usages of war. But the Russians had penetration enough to perceive, that much more brilliant prospects were opened by the present situation of Europe. The remains of the French army were too small, and in too complete a state of disorganization and dismay to oppose any obstacle to their victorious progress. It was certain, that as they advanced, every sovereign, every country, would receive them with open arms; their force would be swelled by the force of all the districts through which they passed; the resources of every such territory would be withdrawn from the strength of France and added to theirs. With regard to the danger of leaving behind them so many strong holds, the example of the French themselves had shewn, that there were circumstances, in which what would otherwise have been the height of imprudence, might be ventured on with perfect safety. A danger, which would have been most serious, in entering into a hostile country, with a powerful enemy in front, ceased to exist when the French force was completely broken, and when the whole country through which they were to pass, was enthusiastically devoted to their cause. Every thing in short indicated, that now was the time to follow up, with the utmost vigour, the advantages they had gained, and not to pause, till the mighty edifice which for the first time had been made to totter, should be laid in the dust. The Russians then determined to advance, and the boldness and vigour of this policy, contrasted with the caution which had marked their proceeding, while circumstances indicated such a course, heightened greatly the idea of the profound wisdom by which their councils were guided.

About this time a most important event took place, which afforded the fairest promise of success to this enterprise. The king of Prussia, ever since the peace of Tilsit, had been completely trampled under foot by the French emperor. As there appeared no hope of ever conciliating a monarch so mortally injured, every care had been taken to leave to him the mere shadow of power, and incessantly to drain his territories of all his resources. It was easy to see what would be the feelings of this sovereign at the present crisis; and it was well known, that those of his people entirely corresponded. He was completely in the power of his enemy; yet to have carried him off, or to have placed him under absolute confinement, would have disappointed the object now in view. He was to be rendered an instrument in keeping the people subservient to France, and in preventing that defection, a disposition to which was now openly manifested. While he was narrowly watched therefore, it was necessary to leave him still the semblance of liberty. The king sought his opportunity; on the night of the 18th January, he eluded the vigilance of his guards, set out from Berlin, and arrived, by rapid journeys, at Breslau, the capital of Silesia. He there called upon his subjects to rally round his standard; and the purpose, though not openly declared, was well understood. The call was obeyed with the utmost enthusiasm. The sufferings of this kingdom, under the French yoke, had been truly enormous. Not only had they witnessed the degradation of the monarchy, and the loss of all its ancient fame; not only had they groaned, like other states, under a system which struck at the root of all commerce & all industry;—they had been treated completely like a conquered people, contribution after contribution had been imposed, and rigorously exacted; and their territory had been covered with French troops, to whose accustomed licence full scope had been given. Their zeal then to deliver and to avenge themselves at this moment, knew no bounds. The army was quickly assembled, rivalling that which had fought under Frederick; and the valour and enthusiastic patriotism of the Prussian monarchy became on a sudden the grand rallying point for the independence of Europe.

Early in the following month, the Russian army began its triumphal march through Germany. No enemy opposed its progress. It seldom met with even a rear-guard of Frenchmen. Its exertions were anticipated by the enthusiasm of the people, who, before the arrival of their deliverers, took arms, and drove before them the wrecks of the army which had held them in subjection. The Russians entered Berlin without resistance, while the Prussian army under D'York advanced to Dresden, and took possession of that part of the city which lay on the right bank of the Elbe. At the same time, their right wing passing through Pomerania, Mecklenburg, and Holstein, soon arrived at Hamburgh, which they found already delivered from the enemy. The Hanse Towns had renewed their ancient confederacy, and were arming with the utmost activity. A corps was formed under the denomination of the Hanseatic legion, which, though newly raised, soon shewed itself fitted to cope with the enemy. Meantime an interview took place at Breslau between the sovereigns of Russia and Prussia and they renewed, under happier auspices, those vows which had been broken by former adverse fortune. Their arms from that moment were inseparably united; the two nations fought together as one.

It is now time to look to the interior of France, where Buonaparté remained an inactive, but certainly not an uninterested spectator of this rapid downfall of his power. Soon after his arrival in Paris, he called a meeting of the legislative body, before whom, for the first time, he presented himself humbled. He had penetration however to perceive, that it was no longer time to disguise the extremity to which he was reduced. Previously to the meeting, a bulletin had been issued, giving almost a correct account of the calamity of the French army, and of the wreck to which it was reduced. High language however was still held; and a resolution was indicated, that France would not descend from the commanding station which she had assumed among the nations of Europe. Her present losses, which had arisen neither from weakness, nor from any military error, but solely from the unexpected inclemency of the elements, might soon be repaired by vigorous exertion; and the enemy, if emboldened by a casual success he should venture to pass his natural frontiers, would soon find cause to repent his rashness. To effect such great objects however, after having sustained loss so severe, would require extraordinary and even unprecedented sacrifices. To these however, it was confidently trusted, that the love of their country, of their emperor, would make them cheerfully submit. After such a prelude, the plan was brought forward, by which a levy, to the enormous amount of 350,000 men, was to be raised from the exhausted population of France. A retrospect of seven years was taken, and classes which had furnished successive contingents, and had received reiterated promises of future exemption, were again called upon to contribute. At the same time, the conscription for 1814 was called out, and its amount raised from 120 to 150,000 men. The senate, a body of his own creation, voted without hesitation the measure proposed; and the same language of abject flattery was still lavished upon him. The nation, after seeing the flower of its youth fall victims to the elements and the sword of the enemy, must have felt deeply this new call for almost all that remained; but no active opposition was raised; and the conscription immediately began to be enforced with the same severe regularity as at any former period.

Buonaparté however, who felt that his power, within as well as without, rested no longer on the same firm basis as formerly, began to consider the means by which it might be rendered more stable. In the wantonness of his former prosperity, he had involved himself in a quarrel with the head of the Catholic church, whether from not meeting in that venerable person with the entire subserviency which he expected from every one alike; or whether from the mere desire to obtain possession of the small temporal domains which still remained to the Pontiff. This imprudent step, which nothing could have prompted but the most entire confidence in the stability of his power, had exposed his government to considerable unpopularity; and now that the fabric tottered, it was to be apprehended that the consequences might become serious. Overtures were therefore made to the Pontiff, who, notwithstanding the evident necessity which prompted them, did not think it expe-

Digitized with financial assistance from the
Government of Maharashtra
on 28 June, 2017

dient to refuse. The territories of the church were reſtored, and the Pope in return gave his ſanction, hitherto withheld, to the union with the Empress Louisa.

In ſurveying the props upon which his power reſted, this laſt was ſoon diſcovered to be the firmeſt. It became now evident to every one, how profound was the policy which had dictated this connection. In forming an alliance with the houſe of Auſtria, Buonaparté had by no means, as ſuperficial politicians at the time imagined, ſecured the uninterrupted amity and ſubſerviency of that ſtill powerful court. But he had ſecured that no wiſh ſhould on its part exiſt, for the entire ſubverſion of his empire; he had even rendered this an event which Auſtria would be diſpoſed to avert. In the eyes of his own ſubjects alſo, this gave to his monarchy ſomewhat of a legitimate aſpect, and to his power an opinion of ſtability, which it would not have otherwiſe poſſeſſed, It became thus his decided policy, to produce the empress as much as poſſible. These views doubtleſs dictated the reſolution to inveſt her with the regency during his abſence. and to accompany this ſtep with a variety of other proviſions, in all which a prominent part was aſſigned to her. The ſucceſſion to the throne was alſo ſettled with a minute accuracy, which promiſed to give to it ſomewhat of an eſtabliſhed and dignified appearance,

Meantime, the torrent from the north rolled on; the barriers of the Viſtula and the Oder proved inefficacious to ſtem it. The accession of Pruſſia and Sweden, with the great armaments which were carrying on over the north of Germany, ſwelled the ſingle power of Ruſsia into a formidable confederacy. The fidelity of all the foreign troops in the French ſervice was now more than ſuſpected; and it clearly appeared, that there was not one, who would not ſnatch the firſt opportunity of deſerting. In theſe circumſtances it ſeemed neceſſary to make ſome addition, even to the immenſe preparations which were already on foot. Ninety thouſand men of the conſcription of 1814, originally announced as to be kept in reſerve, were now rendered diſpoſeable. Another ninety thouſand were raiſed by a new retroſpect. The cities and municipalities were invited and expected to raiſe new corps of cavalry, ſo as to replace that part of the army, which had entirely periſhed during the Ruſsian campaign. Buonaparté however was perfectly ſenſible, that he could not at once lead theſe raw levies againſt the enemy. Every reſource which experience and ingenuity could ſuggeſt, was exhauſted, in order to confer on them that diſcipline of which they ſtood in need. Officers were procured either by drafts from Spain, or from the ſubalterns of the regiments which remained. A large camp was formed upon the Maine, where the operation of preparing them for the field could be carried on, without danger of being interrupted by the approach of the enemy.

Little or no reſiſtance was oppoſed to the paſſage, by the allied troops, of the Viſtula and the Oder. But on their reaching the Elbe, which they were now paſſing at all points, they came in contact with the French new levies, and a diſpoſition to make a ſtand began to be manifeſted. The firſt conflict took place as Luneburg, then occupied by General Morand, who had advanced from Bremen for its defence. The reſult was completely in favour of the allies. Generals Doerberg and Czernicheff came unexpectedly upon the French commander, his corps was driven through the ſtreets of Luneburg, he himſelf fell in the action; and nearly all his troops were killed or taken priſoners.

A more vigorous effort was ſoon after made by the enemy to retrieve their affairs. Magdeburg formed their main point of ſtrength on the Elbe, and its vicinity to Berlin afforded a favourable opportunity for offenſive operations. Having collected here the chief remains of the army which had retreated from Ruſsia, reinforced by ſuch of the new levies as appeared beſt fitted for active ſervice, they determined upon making an attempt to regain poſſeſſion of the Pruſsian capital. They drove in at firſt the advanced poſts of the allies, which were ſomewhat unprepared for the attack. But Wittgenſtein, who commanded here, with D'York's corps of Pruſsians under him, ſoon collected his troops, attacked the French on all ſides, and drove them back precipitately into their entrenchments. Meaſures were then taken to inveſt Magdeburg upon the eaſtern bank of the Elbe.

While theſe operations were carried on upon the Lower Elbe, the main body of the allied armies was advancing by Dresden through Saxony. They were already in poſſeſſion of the ancient part of that capital, ſituated on the eaſtern bank; but the breadth of the river, and the command of the bridges, enabled the French to make ſome ſtand on the other ſide. Being unable to maintain the bridge, on the 19th March, they blew it up. The Ruſsians however ſucceeded on the 26th, in paſſing their whole force over the Elbe at Meiſen; upon which the enemy, who had not force ſufficient to contend with them, precipitately evacuated Dresden. The king of Saxony however overlooked the honour which it was in his power to obtain, by eſpouſing the cauſe of Germany. This weak monarch dreaded probably the returning aſcendancy of Buonaparté. That monarch too, who viewed him as an uſeful inſtrument in his ſchemes of ambition, had beſtowed upon him large acceſſions of territory; and, however precarious the tenure by which he held them, this extended dominion might appear more flattering, than the mere quiet poſſeſſion of his legitimate territories. He followed therefore the retreating French army, and repaired to a place of ſecurity in Franconia. His troops however did not follow the example. They ſeparated from the French army and ſhut themſelves up in Torgau, where they concluded a treaty of neutrality, which, but for inauſpicious events would ſoon have been converted into one of co-operation. The allied forces then proceeded almoſt without oppoſition through Saxony, and though treated by the ſovereign as hoſtile, by the people they were every where hailed as deliverers. The entrance of the Ruſsians into Leipsic was, as it were, a new life to that great centre of German commerce. The allies immediately advanced, croſſed the Saale at different points, occupied Gotha and Weimar, and began to penetrate through the foreſt of Thuringia.

The French armies were now placed in a ſomewhat critical ſituation. The main body of the active military force was ſtationed at or near Magdeburg, and extended from thence to the Saale. On the other hand, the new levies, the produce of the late conſcription, were forming on the Maine. The advance of the allies tended to interrupt the communication between theſe two armies, and to compel the former, either to engage ſingly, or to withdraw itſelf from Magdeburg. The time was therefore come for the French corps, if poſſible, to unite and to act; and Buonaparté conceived them to be now in ſuch a ſituation as that without riſk, they might be brought into the field. The army on the Maine was therefore directed to move forward; and he himſelf left Paris, in order to place himſelf at the head of the united forces. His preſence might ſeem to have been more wanted amid the ſeries of difficulties under which the French army had till now laboured; but it ſuited that empirical policy which he has followed, to withhold it till the completion of his preparations afforded a fair promiſe, that victory would ſoon follow his arrival.

The forces which Buonaparté had now aſſembled were very great, and conſiderably outnumbered thoſe which his opponents had brought forward to the ſcene of action. With regard to the latter, though we would by no means withdraw our tribute of warm applauſe from their general proceedings, there yet appear ſome points in the arrangement of the preſent campaign, which may afford room for criticiſm. The Ruſsians, as we before obſerved, had ſet out upon the principle of not ſuffering their advance to be retarded by the fortreſſes which they might find in their route; but, leaving each of theſe watched by a body of troops, to proceed with their main body to the Elbe and the Rhine. To this meaſure, circumſtanced as they were, we have given our full approbation. They had thus, without ſuſtaining any inconvenience, left behind them three ſucceſſive chains, including ſome of the ſtrongeſt in Europe. It appears evident, that the ſucess of the plan entirely depended upon the amount of force which they brought to the front of their line. If they maintained their ground there, the fortreſſes, deprived of ſuccour, muſt ſooner or later fall of themſelves. If, on the contrary, they were unable to hold this advanced poſition, the fortreſſes would ſoon be relieved, and they would loſe the ground which they had gained. Since the allies had adopted the ſyſtem of leaving the ſtrong places behind they ought not at the ſame time to have attempted that of beſieging them. Yet, at the time we are treating of, Thorn and Spandau were taken by regular ſiege, and operations before Dantzick were preſſed with conſiderable vigour. Had all the troops employed in theſe ſieges, beyond what were neceſſary for mere obſervation, been brought forward into Saxony, the inequality would either not have been created, or have been leſs decided, and it might not have been neceſſary for the army to retrace its ſteps.

Our next obſevation is, that the allies being from the above or other cauſes, decidedly inferior in number, the policy ſeems doubtful, by which they were induced to advance beyond the Elbe. If their information was correct, relative to the French army compared with theirs, they muſt have felt the impoſſibility of making head againſt them in the open plain. Perhaps then the moſt prudent plan would have been, to ſtrengthen as much as poſſible the line of defence formed by that river, to obtain poſſeſſion of the bridges, or to throw up entrenchments before thoſe commanded by the fortreſſes of the enemy. They might thus have maintained themſelves till their levies were completed, or new reinforcements arrived.

As the army on the Maine moved northwards into Saxony, that near Magdeburg, commanded by Eugene the Viceroy, marched ſouth to meet it, and the junction took place on the left bank of the Saale. The whole of theſe united forces might then be eſtimated at from 150 to 200,000 men. On the 25th, the emperor arrived at Erfurth, and immediately ordered all the diviſions to advance in the direction of Leipsic.

The detachments of the allied troops which had advanced beyond the Saale, fell back upon the approach of the French army; and the main body eſtabliſhed itſelf behind the Elſter. Buonaparté having cleared the left bank of the Scale, croſſed at Naumburg, and advanced upon Weiſſenfels. A Ruſsian diviſion, which had been puſhed forward to reconnoitre, was here driven in with ſome loſs. The action however was obſtinately conteſted; and it was marked by the fall of the Duke of Iſtria, (Beſsieres) one of the moſt diſtinguiſhed of the French marſhals. Next morning (the 2nd of May) Buonaparté advanced into the plain of Lutzen, with the view of reaching Leipsic, and throwing himſelf thence upon the rear of the allied armies. Suddenly however, the whole of their forces, with the Emperor of Ruſsia and the King of Pruſsia at their head, croſſed the Elſter at Pegau, and commenced a grand attack upon the French army. The conteſt which enſued was of the moſt obſtinately diſputed and ſanguinary deſcription. Buonaparté was accordingly, by his own confeſſion, ſurprized, and his plans deranged by this ſudden onſet of his adverſary. Conſiderable diſadvantage was evidently ſuſtained in the beginning of the day; diſperſion and flight took place among ſeveral of the newly raiſed battalions. Reinforcements being brought up, affairs were ſomewhat retrieved, and the latter part of the action was maintained nearly upon an equal footing. The loſs on both ſides was very great; and the reſult does not appear, on the whole, to have made any eſſential change in the relative ſtrength of either army. This day was rendered memorable chiefly by the ſignal revival of the military glory of Pruſsia. Her troops formed a large proportion of thoſe which fought in the plain of Lutzen, and their determined and enthuſiaſtic valour ſeemed to revive the ancient days of the monarchy. The loſs ſuſtained by them in officers fully teſtified the deciſive part which they had taken in the action. The Prince of Heſſe Hombourg was killed, General Blucher was wounded; and many gallant youths, new to the field, fell a ſacrifice to the noble intrepidity with which they ſought their country's deliverance.

The conception of this battle, on the part of the allies, was bold and judicious, and the iſſue not unfavourable. But with the inferiority of numbers under which they laboured, nothing leſs than a deciſive victory could have enabled them to maintain their preſent poſition. Buonaparté ſtill followed out his original plan of puſhing on to Leipsic, to throw himſelf on their rear. To guard againſt this movement, it was neceſſary to fall back to the Mulda; and finding, when there, no advantageous poſition which could compenſate the numerical deficiency, they had no alternative, but to retire behind the Elbe. The retreat was effected ſlowly, in perfect order, and without loſs. Buonaparté advanced, and on the 8th May, made his entry into Dresden.

The King of Saxony, while the arms of the allies continued to proſper, had ſhewn ſome diſpoſition to eſpouſe their cauſe. Inſtead of remaining in Franconia, he had repaired to Prague, where he might be ready to act according to circumſtances. But ſeeing Napoleon again maſter of Saxony, and the ſtar of his fortune again on the aſcendant, he determined upon adhering to that alliance. He repaired therefore to Dresden as ſoon as he underſtood that the French had entered that capital. Suſpicious as his late conduct had been, it was no time to ſhew any conſciouſness of it; and Napoleon received him with the moſt complete outward cordiality. Orders were inſtantly ſent to the Saxons ſhut up in Torgau to rejoin the French ſtandard; and the mandate was immediately obeyed. Buonaparte thus obtained at once a conſiderable acceſſion to his force, and the means of paſſing the Elbe without difficulty, under cover of the fortreſs of Torgau.

The allies, finding it vain to attempt defending the paſſage of the Elbe, determined upon falling back to a ſtrong poſition behind it. They had now to determine as to their line of retreat. They fixed it not upon Berlin, not covering that capital, but in the remoteſt poſſible direction from it; through Luſatia, cloſe to the Bohemian frontier. This was a courſe ſimilar to that which had been purſued during the laſt Ruſsian campaign, and it ſeems dictated by the ableſt views of policy. In retreating upon Berlin and the central provinces of the Pruſsian monarchy, theſe important objects could have been preſerved only by fighting perhaps in diſadvantageous circumſtances; and if this battle were loſt, they went along with it. But, by falling back in their preſent direction, the enemy, who could not leave ſo great an army behind, or on their flanks, were neceſſarily drawn into remoter and leſs important diſtricts; all the vital parts of the Kingdom were untouched. With this view, an advantageous poſition was choſen near Bautzen, in the intention, ſhould that be forced, of falling back upon Sileſia. At the ſame time, leſt mere flying corps of the enemy ſhould penetrate to Berlin, that capital was covered by General Bulow, with a corps, partly of regulars, and partly of the newly raiſed *landwher* and militia.

Buonaparté, arrived at Dresden, was not long before he puſhed detachments across the Elbe. He ſent them in different directions, with the view of deceiving the enemy as to the real point of attack. While ſeveral corps ſtationed themſelves in front of Bautzen, that of Ney moved upon Hoyerswerda, and Victor. Sebaſtiani, and Bertrand marched ſtill farther north in the direction of Berlin. Suddenly however, all theſe corps changed their line of march, and moved towards Bautzen as a common center. This was according to his uſual ſyſtem, in order to turn his collected force againſt that point, where the main ſtrength of the enemy lay. Accordingly, he ſo far ſucceeded, that Bulow, with the corps which covered Berlin, was completely thrown out, and did not co-operate in the battle which immediately followed.

The greater part of the allied army was placed in a very advantageous poſition. The left reſted on the mountains which ſeparate Luſatia from Bohemia; the right on ſome commanding heights near Kreckwitz; while the centre occupied ground favourable to the action of cavalry, in which the allies were ſuperior. But, beyond the left, there was an extent of flat and woody country, interſected with roads, leading to the territory in the rear of the allies. Here the corps of General Barclay de Tolli manœuvred, not forming properly part of the line, but merely guarding againſt attempts on the flank and rear of the army.

Buonaparté made his firſt demonſtration againſt the left of the allies, poſted among the mountains, which were favourable to the action of his infantry. The conteſt was continued for ſome time with warmth, but without his being able to make any impreſſion. It ſoon appeared however, that this was merely a feint to cover his main object, which was to act againſt the right of the poſition. General Barclay de Tolli who, as formerly mentioned, held the open ground to the extreme right, was attacked by an overwhelming force, and driven in upon the main body. Buonaparté thus became maſter of the tract which that general had occupied, and which was full of paſſages leading to the rear of the allied army, and he loſt not a moment in availing himſelf of ſo important an advantage. General Blucher and D'York made a deſperate attack upon the flank of the French advancing corps, and ſucceeded, for ſome time, in arreſting its progreſs. But it ſoon appeared that the odds were here immenſe; and as all the other parts of the line were alſo preſſed by ſuperior numbers, there was no poſſibility of drawing from them any aid. There were thus no means of preventing their left from advancing upon the rear of the allies, and cutting them off from the roads leading to Sileſia and the Bober. It was determined therefore to retreat upon Hochkirch; a movement which was effected without loſs or any attempt at moleſtation. This battle was one of the moſt deſperate and ſanguinary, even of that dreadful ſucceſſion which Europe has witneſſed. The French ſtated their loſs at 12 or 12,000 men; a greater number than they had admitted, even at Borodino. Among the ſlain was Marſhal Duroc, (Duke of Friuli) who held the office of Grand Chamberlain, and who, in all the campaigns, had been cloſely attached to the perſon of the Emperor; and whoſe death was celebrated by him with a profuſion of real or affected ſorrow.

Buonaparté followed ſlowly up his hard won victory. The allies retired upon Schweidnitz, which led them ſouthward through Sileſia, and ſtill cloſe along the frontier of Bohemia. They thus adhered to their former principle of drawing the enemy as far as poſſible from Berlin and the central Pruſsian provinces. Their rear guard of cavalry maintained a conſtant ſuperiority over that of the enemy, and handled them very roughly on general occaſions; but they found no poſition before reaching Schweidnitz, where it was adviſable to attempt a new ſtand. They were reinforced by ſeveral large corps which arrived from the Ruſsian frontier, and rendered their force as conſiderable as it had been before the battle of Bautzen, New diviſions of equal ſtrength were announced to be on their march. Meantime the French army had not only received no reinforcements, but had been been obliged to leave behind it the corps of Oudinot, for the purpoſe of making head againſt that under Bulow, which was acting in front of Berlin. Boaſts were thrown out as if, after the battle of Bautzen, the French army would advance, and take poſſeſſion of that capital. Buonaparté however, according to his uſual ſyſtem, carrying the whole maſs of the army with himſelf into Sileſia, Oudinot found himſelf reduced to an attitude the moſt ſtrictly defenſive, and with difficulty maintained the communication between Dresden and the grand army.

Buonaparté however obtained ſome advantages. He raiſed the blockade of Glogau, a fortreſs of great ſtrength, and one of the moſt important keys of the Oder. He took poſſeſſion alſo of Breſlau, the capital of Sileſia. His diviſions were now advanced in front of the allied camp at Schweidnitz; and an attempt would probably have been made to force it, had not an event taken place, which ſuſpended his farther operations.

(To be continued.)

BOMBAY.—PRINTED FOR THE Proprietors, BY M. D. CRUZ, Number 10 MILITARY SQUARE,
WHERE ADVERTISEMENTS, ESSAYS, POETICAL PIECES, ARTICLES OF INTELLIGENCE, &c. &c. WILL BE THANKFULLY RECEIVED,
Gentlemen about to change their ſtations are requeſted to give notice to the PRINTER, *who will pay due attention to their Orders.*